

NOTES ON GUATEMALAN SAPINDACEAE

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CUPANIA CLAVELLIGERA Lundell, sp. nov. — Arbor parva, ramulis velutino-pilosis; folia ad 20 cm. longa; foliola 5 vel 6, sessilis, obovata, oblanceolata vel elliptica, 4.5–18 cm. longa, 2–5.5 cm. lata, apice subacuminata, basi cuneata, supra glabrata, subtus pilosa, serrata, lamina chartacea; inflorescentia paniculata, velutino-pilosa, ad 25 cm. longa, pauciramosa; flores subspicati; pedicelli 0.5–0.8 mm. longi; bracteae subulato-lanceolatae, ad 2 mm. longae; sepala imbricata, pilosa, 2–2.5 mm. longa; petala unguiculata, 1.8–2.5 mm. longa, dentata, pilosa; filamenta ad 3.8 mm. longa, basi pilosa; antherae glabrae; ovarium dense pilosum.

Small tree, about 7 m. tall, conspicuously velutinous-pilose with tawny hairs; branchlets stout; leaves large, the petiole and rachis up to 10.5 cm. long; leaflets 5 or 6, sessile, chartaceous, obovate, oblanceolate or elliptic, 4.5–18 cm. long, 2–5.5 cm. wide, apex subacuminate, basi cuneate or acute, the margin remotely serrate, pilose at first on both surfaces, glabrate above except along the midvein, persistently pilose beneath; inflorescence large, paniculate, up to 25 cm. long, velutinous-pilose, few-branched; flowers pilose, subspicate, with the pedicels only 0.5–0.8 mm. long; bracts subulate-lanceolate, up to 2 mm. long; sepals imbricate, closed in bud, thin, pilose, elliptic or obovate, 2–2.5 mm. long; petals unguiculate, the claw clavate, the blade thin, the sides folded inward and spathe-like, pilose, the margin conspicuously dentate, 1.8–2.5 mm. long; filaments slender, up to 3.8 mm. long, pilose to above middle; anthers about 0.6 mm. long, glabrous; ovary pilose.

Guatemala: Dept. Izabal, El Estor, in high forest, March 25, 1972, Elias Contreras 11545 (LL, type), tree 20 ft. high, 4 in. diam., flowers creamish-white.

Closely related to C. guatemalensis (Turcz.) Radlk., the taxon differs in having only 5 or 6 usually obovate or oblanceolate leaflets which are sessile and mostly cuneate at base with margin remotely serrate.

The large inflorescences are few-branched with the flowers dense and essentially spicate. The flowers differ from those of C. guatemalensis in having smaller sepals, and dentate petals clavate below and spathe-like above.

MATAYBA VERAPAZENSIS (Lundell) Lundell, comb. nov.
Cupania verapazensis Lundell, Wrightia 5: 2. 1972.

Guatemala: Dept. Baja Verapaz, Union Barrios, in high forest on top of hill, March 15, 1972, Elias Contreras 11333 (LL, type), tree, 80 ft. high, 20 in. diam., fruit reddish; same locality, in high forest on top of hill, west of km. 161/162, Aug. 20, 1975, C. L. Lundell & Elias Contreras 19700 (LL), tree, 35 ft. high, 6 in. diam., flowers greenish; Niño Perdido, in high forest, on top of hill, east of km. 150/151 of road, Aug. 20, 1975, Lundell & Contreras 19755 (LL), tree, 40 ft. high, 10 in. diam.

Described from fruiting specimens, flowers collected in 1975 have a 5-lobed calyx open in bud, hence the species is referable to Matayba.